

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. An information control apparatus having control means for controlling a image sensing range of a camera, comprising:

5 storage means for storing a program for operating a predetermined action;

acquisition means for acquiring information about a current image sensing range of the camera; and

control means for activating the program stored in
10 said storage means in accordance with the information acquired by said acquisition means.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said apparatus further comprises detection means for detecting whether a user has a control right to the camera,

15 and

said control means activates the program stored in said storage means when said detection means detects that the user has the control right to the camera.

3. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

20 said apparatus further comprises detection means for detecting whether the user has a control right to the camera,

said storage means stores programs for operating a plurality of different actions, and

25 said control means activates an action upon determining whether the action is an action to be activated

while the user has the control right to the camera or an action to be activated even if the user does not have the control right to the camera.

4. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said
5 storage means stores programs for operating a plurality of different actions, and said control means performs control upon determining termination/continuation of operation of a program under activation in accordance with a type of action under activation when said acquisition means detects
10 a change in the image sensing range of the camera in the presence of the program under activation.

5. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said storage means stores a program for operating an action for display control of character information corresponding to
15 a predetermined image sensing range of the camera.

6. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said storage means stores a program for operating an action for setting or operating a printer.

7. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said
20 storage means stores a program for operating an action for transmitting electronic mail.

8. An information control apparatus having display means for displaying an image sensed by a camera, comprising:

25 storage means for storing a program for operating an action for displaying a predetermined window together with

an image displayed by said display means;

acquisition means for acquiring information about a current image sensing range of the camera; and

control means for activating the program stored in
5 said storage means in accordance with the information
acquired by said acquisition means, thereby executing
display control of the predetermined window.

9. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said
storage means stores programs for operating a plurality of
10 different actions, and said control means performs control
upon determining termination/continuation of display of a
window in accordance with a type of action under activation
when said acquisition means detects a change in the image
sensing range of the camera in the presence of a program
15 for which display control is being performed.

10. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said
storage means stores a program for operating an action for
display control of a window for displaying character
information corresponding to a predetermined image sensing
20 range of the camera.

11. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said
storage means stores a program for operating an action for
display control of a window for setting or operating a
printer.

25 12. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said
storage means stores a program for operating an action for

display control of a window for transmitting electronic mail.

13. An information control method having the control step of controlling a image sensing range of a camera,
5 comprising:

the storage step of storing a program for operating a predetermined action;

the acquisition step of acquiring information about a current image sensing range of the camera; and

10 the control step of activating the program stored in the storage step in accordance with the information acquired in the acquisition step.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein

the method further comprises the detection step of
15 detecting whether a user has a control right to the camera, and

the control step comprises activating the program stored in the storage step when it is detected in the detection step that the user has the control right to the
20 camera.

15. The method according to claim 13, wherein

the method further comprises the detection step of detecting whether the user has a control right to the camera,

25 the storage step comprises storing programs for operating a plurality of different actions, and

the control step comprises activating an action upon determining whether the action is an action to be activated while the user has the control right to the camera or an action to be activated even if the user does not have the control right to the camera.

16. The method according to claim 13, wherein the storage step comprises storing programs for operating a plurality of different actions, and the control step comprises performing control upon determining termination/continuation of operation of a program under activation in accordance with a type of action under activation when a change in the image sensing range of the camera is detected in the acquisition step in the presence of the program under activation.

17. The method according to claim 13, wherein the storage step comprises storing a program for operating an action for display control of character information corresponding to a predetermined image sensing range of the camera.

18. The method according to claim 13, wherein the storage step comprises storing a program for operating an action for setting or operating a printer.

19. The method according to claim 13, wherein the storage step comprises storing a program for operating an action for transmitting electronic mail.

20. An information control method having the display step of displaying an image sensed by a camera, comprising:

the storage step of storing a program for operating an action for displaying a predetermined window together with an image displayed in the display step;

the acquisition step of acquiring information about
5 a current image sensing range of the camera; and

the control step of activating the program stored in the storage step in accordance with the information acquired in the acquisition step, thereby executing display control of the predetermined window.

10 21. The method according to claim 20, wherein the storage step comprises storing programs for operating a plurality of different actions, and the control step comprises performing control upon determining
termination/continuation of display of a window in
15 accordance with a type of action under activation when a change in the image sensing range of the camera is detected in the acquisition step in the presence of a program for which display control is being performed.

22. The method according to claim 20, wherein the storage
20 step comprises storing a program for operating an action for display control of a window for displaying character information corresponding to a predetermined image sensing range of the camera.

23. The method according to claim 20, wherein the storage
25 step comprises storing a program for operating an action for display control of a window for setting or operating

a printer.

24. The method according to claim 20, wherein the storage step comprises storing a program for operating an action for display control of a window for transmitting electronic
5 mail.

25. A computer-readable medium used for an information control method having the control step of controlling a image sensing range of a camera and storing a program comprising program codes of:

10 the storage step of storing a program for operating a predetermined action;

the acquisition step of acquiring information about a current image sensing range of the camera; and

15 the control step of activating the program stored in the storage step in accordance with the information acquired in the acquisition step.

26. The medium according to claim 25, wherein

20 the program further comprises a program code of the detection step of detecting whether a user has a control right to the camera, and

the control step comprises activating the program stored in the storage step when it is detected in the detection step that the user has the control right to the camera.

25 27. The medium according to claim 25, wherein

the program further comprises a program code of the

detection step of detecting whether the user has a control right to the camera,

the storage step comprises storing programs for operating a plurality of different actions, and

5 the control step comprises activating an action upon determining whether the action is an action to be activated while the user has the control right to the camera or an action to be activated even if the user does not have the control right to the camera.

10 28. The medium according to claim 25, wherein the storage step comprises storing programs for operating a plurality of different actions, and the control step comprises performing control upon determining
15 termination/continuation of operation of a program under activation in accordance with a type of action under activation when a change in the image sensing range of the camera is detected in the acquisition step in the presence of the program under activation.

20 29. The medium according to claim 25, wherein the storage step comprises storing a program for operating an action for display control of character information corresponding to a predetermined image sensing range of the camera.

30. The medium according to claim 25, wherein the storage step comprises storing a program for operating an action
25 for setting or operating a printer.

31. The medium according to claim 25, wherein the storage

step comprises storing a program for operating an action for transmitting electronic mail.

32. A computer-readable medium used for an information control method having the display step of displaying an
5 image sensed by a camera and storing a program comprising program codes of:

the storage step of storing a program for operating an action for displaying a predetermined window together with an image displayed in the display step;

10 the acquisition step of acquiring information about a current image sensing range of the camera; and

the control step of activating the program stored in the storage step in accordance with the information acquired in the acquisition step, thereby executing display
15 control of the predetermined window.

33. The medium according to claim 32, wherein the storage step comprises storing programs for operating a plurality of different actions, and the control step comprises performing control upon determining
20 termination/continuation of display of a window in accordance with a type of action under activation when a change in the image sensing range of the camera is detected in the acquisition step in the presence of a program for which display control is being performed.

25 34. The medium according to claim 32, wherein the storage step comprises storing a program for operating an action

for display control of a window for displaying character information corresponding to a predetermined image sensing range of the camera.

35. The medium according to claim 32, wherein the storage
5 step comprises storing a program for operating an action for display control of a window for setting or operating a printer.

36. The medium according to claim 32, wherein the storage
10 step comprises storing a program for operating an action for display control of a window for transmitting electronic mail.